

L I R A
LEISURE ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON
THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2018
AT THE LEISURE ISLAND COUNTRY CLUB

1. Present

72 members as per the Attendance Register, 31 accompanying persons and five other residents.

Apologies for non-attendance were noted from:

Brian & Sue Allanson, Ian Beswick, Lucy Cooke, Steve & Linda Kekwick, Ricky Maskew, Keith McMurray, Graeme Levin, Jenny Shaw and Mark Sofianos.

2. Welcome

The Chairman extended a warm welcome to all attendees. Notice of the meeting had been sent out in the required time period. A quorum being present, the Chairman declared the meeting duly constituted. He went through the Agenda.

3. Objectives of LIRA (slide 3 of attached presentation)

The Chairman reminded members that the objectives of LIRA are to:

- Ensure that the environmental heritage of Leisure Isle is nurtured and protected.
- With Knysna Municipality (KM), SANParks, SAPS and others: to implement appropriate laws and regulations; to ensure the efficient supply of services; and to ensure good governance
- Maintain an effective security system
- Undertake any matter of important interest or right to the benefit of members.

4. Minutes of Previous General Meetings

Minutes of the general meetings over the past year, as reflected below, were taken as read, adopted and confirmed by the meeting as correct:

- Annual General Meeting held on 20th December 2017
- Extraordinary General Meeting held on 17th October 2018

These minutes are available on the LIRA website.

5. Matters Arising from the Previous Meetings

5.1 Benches at Amanzi

Noted that the benches had all been removed by KM.

5.2 Lampposts on the Causeway

Sheena Mare, who had attended the recent Ward 9 Committee public feedback meeting on 4 December, reported that Mayor Willemse promised that the lampposts at risk would be attended to in 2019.

6. Finances (slides 5-9 of the attached presentation)

6.1 Audited Financial Statements – Year ended 31st October 2018

The Chairman presented the detail of the Audited Financial Statements (slides 5-7).

Noted that R1 080 218 was spent on Island Security; R105 332 on Maintenance of Public Areas; R97 730 on General Administration and R46 800 Contribution to Steenbok Reserve. The surplus for the year was R47 766.

The Annual Financial Statements were approved by members.

6.2 Budget for the year ended 31st October 2019

The details of the budget were then presented (slides 8-9): Island Security R1 156 889; Maintenance of Public Areas R81 500; General Administration R91 900 and Contribution to Steenbok Reserve R50 000. Noted that a modest surplus had been budgeted.

The levies for 2019 were given:

Annual	R4600 (4,6% increase)
Monthly	R 410 (5,0% increase)

Levies are spent as follows:

Island Security 81%; Maintenance of Public Areas 8%; General Administration 7% and Steenbok Reserve Contribution 4%.

The Budget and Levies for the year ending 31st October 2019 were approved by members.

7. Report of the Committee – Year ended 31st October 2018

Dave Stromberg, Deputy Chairman, then presented the Committee Report.

Noted that the Committee Report had been circulated on 8th December 2018 with the Notice of Annual General Meeting and also posted on the website on the same date.

7.1 Membership (slides 11-13)

The Committee continued to focus on recruitment and retention of members through personal contacts and visits. Membership is currently 74% of the 432 Island properties. If properties in transaction are excluded, membership rises to 81%. Reasons for non-membership include properties in transaction (8%); properties with tenants (5%); unaffordable or stopped paying (5%); won't join (4%).

A detailed membership database is updated monthly.

7.2 Communication (slide 14)

Sixteen LIRA newsletters and feedback reports were sent to members, with a 60% readership. As newsletters go, this is a high readership figure but it does mean there are 40% of members who are not keeping themselves abreast of current affairs on the Island.

7.3 Island Safety and Security (slides 15-16)

Allsound provide a 24/7 service with seven dedicated guards on three shifts. They monitor access to the Island, manning CCTV cameras at strategic points, attend to call-outs, and do visible bicycle and van patrols.

Reported crimes for 2018 include thefts of two bicycles, a ladder, cellphones and one vehicle break-in. There were no incidents of house break-in, contact crime, or vehicles stolen on the Island.

Allsound have a strong working relationship with KM Law Enforcement and SAPS. Islanders need to remain vigilant. Any incidents should be reported to the Allsound Control Room on 044-382-5589 for prompt reaction and accurate recording of crime statistics.

7.4 Ward 9 Representation (slide 17-18)

LIRA represents Islanders on the Ward 9 Committee which comprises Leisure Isle, The Heads, Thesen Island, Pezula, Hunters Home and Noetzie. Mayor Mark Willemse is our councillor. Island issues discussed in 2018 included law enforcement, day visitors, the gum trees, Knysna Tourism, road surfacing, road signage and the sea wall.

Feedback is given on the status of the Knysna Integrated Development Plan (IDP) which covers strategic objectives, the budget, service delivery, etc.

Of special interest to the Island is the appointment of urban planners to prepare a Spatial Development Framework for Knysna. LIRA considers it vital that the views of Island residents are incorporated into the municipal planning activities.

7.5 Knysna Municipality (KM) (slides 19-22)

LIRA has a positive working relationship with KM and the Island has received good levels of service including road resurfacing, refuse and sewage removal, verge trimming, streetlight and signage repairs, marking and servicing of fire hydrants, and snake removal. Holiday season preparations include increased law enforcement and cleaning teams, traffic control, lifeguards, and additional bins and temporary toilets.

A major concern, and ongoing focus for LIRA, is the Municipality's inability to enforce laws prohibiting drinking in public places. LIRA has had several meetings with KM to ensure that the municipal bylaws are enforced on the Island, especially those related to public consumption of alcohol and resulting antisocial behaviour, drunken driving and traffic violations, littering, open fires and noise. A recent letter to the Mayor in this regard has also been copied to Western Cape provincials, Alan Winde and Helen Zille.

7.6 The Sea Wall (slides 23-29)

The Sea Wall case was heard in the Cape Town High Court on 30 May and, up until 19th December 2018, judgement was still awaited. LIRA has submitted a proposal to KM and SANParks to make Interim Repairs, as well as a proposal to address the erosion on Bollard Beach. Despite wide support for these proposals, KM is unwilling to proceed until the legal action is resolved.

7.7 Gum trees and gardens (slides 30-32)

27 gum trees were professionally trimmed to reduce risk of fire and falling branches, at a cost to LIRA of R97 000. A further R50 000 was contributed by residents. KM has budgeted to trim the remaining trees in 2019.

Various parks on the Island were beautified with input of funds and labour from residents. LIRA's gardener maintains public spaces.

7.8 Cearn Hall (slides 33-34)

LIRA has entered into an agreement with the LI Country Club to assist with the management of Cearn Hall. The Hall has been repainted, the gardens improved and the interior refreshed. Several residents contributed to the improvement. Further upgrades will be made, including a wheelchair ramp, as donor funds are raised. The intention is to make Cearn Hall a more attractive and well used Island asset.

7.9 Road signs (slide 35)

New road name signs will be erected throughout the Island in January, generously funded by the social events organised by the Fun Raisers. Sales of the recently produced Leisure Isle Passport will also be used for the road sign project and further beautification initiatives. An example of the new road name sign was shown.

7.10 Leisure Isle Festival (slide 35)

This year's Leisure Isle Festival, organised by the Festival Committee, was the most successful ever with record funds raised for local charities.

7.11 Steenbok Nature Reserve (slides 36-43)

The two Erfs comprising Steenbok Nature Reserve were bequeathed by George Cearn to the Knysna Municipality "for the benefit of all Knysna residents". The Reserve is jointly managed by KM and LIRA in terms of an Agreement, which expires in 2021. Good progress was made in 2018 in obtaining recognition for Steenbok Reserve as a Protected Area. When obtained, this recognition will protect Steenbok in perpetuity from ever being developed.

Other highlights of 2018 include:

- Updated website and Facebook page
- The Reflection Seedpod Memorial
- Leisure Isle Festival Stall : Kids in the Park
- 'Look Deep Into Nature' Activity Book
- Outings for schools and interest groups
- Invasive Plant Species Eradication Project. Noted that this project is a crucial component in obtaining Protected Area status.

7.12 LIRA activities in 2019 (slide 44)

- Improving communication still further
- Greater involvement with Knysna Municipality
- Ensuring that existing laws are enforced
- Making progress with rebuilding the sea wall
- Achieving protected status for Steenbok Reserve
- Compiling a long term vision for Leisure Island
- Participation in KM's Integrated Development Planning
- Updating the LIRA website
- Compilation of the Island Centenary Book

That concluded the Committee Report presentation.

The Chairman paid tribute to Dave Stromberg, who had driven virtually every project mentioned above, and who had been an invaluable Deputy Chairman to him during the year.

The Report of the Committee was adopted by members present.

8. General discussion

8.1 Sea Walls Case – Judgement received on morning of 20th December

The Chairman advised that the long-awaited judgement of the Sea Walls case had been received this morning and disappointingly was not in LIRA's favour. Adv Derek Mitchell, SC, who has been handling the case for LIRA on a *pro bono* basis, said he will study the judgement and advise the Committee on options available.

In answer to questions, Adv Mitchell confirmed that any work done on the sea wall has to have the authorisation of both KM and SANParks, the latter of which require an

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be done. The previous EIA estimated the full cost of repair to be R3 million. Noted that Mayor Mark Willemse had reported, at the Ward 9 public feedback meeting, that an amount of R1million is in the budget for sea wall repairs.

The Chairman gave assurance that all suggestions raised by members had been noted and would be discussed by the Committee. The options will be put to members for comment before any further action is taken in this regard. He thanked Adv Mitchell for the enormous amount of time he has put into the case.

8.2 Integrated Development Plan

Hilary Saunders congratulated the Committee on being proactive in participating in KM's Integrated Development Planning. She suggested that a project team be established, possibly in conjunction with some of the other areas comprising Ward 9.

8.3 Drones

Clive Tasker queried whether drones are permitted to fly over private properties. The Chairman undertook to make enquiries. An attendee said it is only in National Parks that it is illegal to fly drones.

8.4 Vendors and other door-to-door

John Koch on behalf of Mark Sofianos queried whether the food vendor at Bollard Beach had a right to be there. The Chairman answered that the vendor had responded to a tender put out by KM and therefore had the necessary authorisation.

John Knowles drew attention to an Action Ads notification asking people not to give donations to individuals coming door-to-door requesting "Christmas boxes".

8.5 Carols by Candlelight

Sheena Mare encouraged people to support the Carols by Candlelight to be held the following night, Friday 21st December.

8.6 Donations towards security guards' bonus

Contributions towards the security guards' bonus could be made either at the AGM or at Carols by Candlelight. The guards have once again done an outstanding job this year.

9. Election of the Committee

The current committee and their portfolios during 2018 were:

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| • Chairman | Keith Hollis |
| • Deputy Chairman | David Stromberg |
| • Infrastructure | Paul Kotze and David Stromberg |
| • Security | Declan Nurse |
| • Financial | James Botha and Mary-Anne Beviss-Challinor |
| • Membership | Arjen and Ingrid Meter |
| • Communication | Brenda Neall |
| • Environment | Clive Bennet |

The Chairman reported that the current Committee members were all available for re-election. In addition, three new members had been proposed:

- Kerry Evans
- George Mackeurtan
- Myles Ruck.

The Chairman said that in terms of Clause 7.3.4 of the LIRA Constitution:
Voting shall be by way of a ballot unless the Chairman decides otherwise ...

He proposed that all 13 nominated members be appointed to the Committee and that members should indicate support or otherwise for this proposal by way of show of hands.

There was overwhelming support for this proposal, by show of hands.

The LIRA Committee for 2019 therefore comprises:

- Clive BENNET
- Mary-Anne BEVISS-CHALLINOR
- James BOTHA
- Kerry EVANS
- Keith HOLLIS
- Paul KOTZE
- George MACKEURTAN
- Arjen METER
- Ingrid METER
- Brenda NEALL
- Declan NURSE
- Myles RUCK
- Dave STROMBERG

There being no further business and discussion, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.